

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 10, 2023

The Honorable Amit Bose
Administrator
United States Department of Transportation
Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Bose:

We, the undersigned members of Congress who represent portions of Berks, Chester, and Montgomery Counties in Pennsylvania, are writing today to request your full and fair consideration of the Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority's (SPRPA) application to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Corridor Identification and Development Program. We are committed in our shared support of this project that will assist the communities and the economies of our districts.

The establishment of an intercity passenger rail service from Reading, through Pottstown and Phoenixville, to Philadelphia and beyond has the potential to revitalize these expanding communities and create opportunity and access for everyone. Recent studies have determined that an intercity rail service from Reading through Philadelphia and beyond has the potential to create \$1.4 billion of income generation, over \$1 billion of new property development and existing property value increases, nearly \$1 billion expansion of the local and federal tax base, and 28,000 person years of work.

The passenger rail system would reconnect these predominantly minority, underserved communities with cities along the East Coast and serve as a conduit for growth and small business development along the rail lines. This service will also unlock opportunities for more people to easily enjoy the arts and entertainment venues, small businesses, outdoor attractions, world class educational institutions, and state-leading employers these communities already contain.

We appreciate the opportunity to highlight this major economic development and social equity project that would greatly benefit the communities throughout our districts and the region. We ask for your full and fair consideration and look forward to continuing the efforts to restore passenger rail.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress


Daniel Meuser
Member of Congress

Chrissy Houlahan

Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress